

# The Southwester

www.swdc.org

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January 2008

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FREE!

Published by The Southwest Neighborhood Assembly, Inc. —a 501(c) (3) charitable and educational corporation. Leave your message at 202-554-8560 or thesouthwester@yahoo.com

## “Smart Card Meters” for Parking in SW-SE?

Council Member Tommy Wells is proposing that the Council buy parking meters (that cost \$7,800 apiece) that would accept credit cards or money to control parking in SW and as far as 7<sup>th</sup> St. SE north of the freeway. This is partly to prevent ball game fans from taking up the street parking that is already in short supply for residents.

The Washington Post Metro Section at page B6 on Sat. Dec. 15 said “The plan would put new time limits on parking and charge much higher rates at meters - intended to match parking garage prices - on many streets north and southwest of the baseball stadium....The exact streets to be affected by Wells’s proposal are still being worked out. The restrictions would limit some street parking to ward residents only...Some blocks near the ballpark that have no residential units would be

*Continued on Page 6*

## Game Day Parking Discussed by Officials

Game Day parking was discussed at a Nov. 28 meeting at the Wilson Bldg. by city officials and local ANC members and others, who often emphasized that this must be a public-transit-oriented ballpark, or it won’t work. Gregory McCarthy of the Nationals stated that 17,000 parking spaces are available after 5 pm at METRO-train lots throughout the area for \$4. Fans will be encouraged to use them and come by Metro-train. The Nationals will put out

100,000 brochures to explain the right way to travel to games, he said. A representative of the office of the Deputy Mayor for Economic Development said that the pier for a water taxi should be completed soon. A representative of transportation consultants Grove/Slade pointed out that Wrigley field has extensive ways to bring fans without bringing cars with them. Parking lots are still being negotiated here. An inventory will be ready by January 1.

## Kwame Brown Invites Comments on Ballpark Parking

At Large Councilmember Kwame Brown is holding a public roundtable on parking and traffic for the new ballpark on Fri. Jan. 11 at in the Council Chambers on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor of the Wilson Bldg., 1350 Pennsylvania Ave. NW. His notice says “Those who wish to testify should contact John Adams at the Committee on Economic Development by email at [Jadams@DCCouncil.us](mailto:Jadams@DCCouncil.us) or by telephone (202) 727-6683. E-mail contacts should include the full name,

title, and affiliation – if applicable – of the person(s) wishing to testify. Also, we’re asking that participants please forward their written statements electronically – if possible. Witnesses should bring 15 copies of their written testimony. Representatives of organizations will be allowed a maximum of five (5) minutes for oral presentation and individuals will be allowed a maximum of three (3) minutes for oral presentation.”



Wilson High's choir performed in SW on Sunday of American Education Week.

## It's Not Too Late For These Holiday Events

By Lida Churchville

Do your best not to miss the trees and toy trains so popular during the Christmas season – in the daytime or after dark. You can start out without leaving Southwest DC by visiting the huge tree on the US Capitol grounds at Second St. SW between Independence Ave. SW and Constitution Ave. Full of decorations, the tree is also lit by LED lights to save energy. It is easy walking from the Federal Center SW Metro on the Blue and Orange lines or the Capitol South station on the same lines.

Only a few steps from that tree is the

entrance to the Botanical Garden on Independence Ave. in Southwest. The “A Midnight Clear” exhibit there will remain through Jan. 6. On Dec. 18, 20, and 27 the doors will be open until 8 pm. The holiday blooming plants and an unbelievable display of model trains winding through winter landscapes on a spectacular suspension bridge should not be missed.

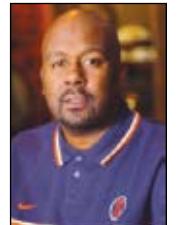
At the Union Station Metro on the Red line is the annual Norwegian Christmas display with a huge tree and model trains. The tree comes down Dec. 27, but the handcrafted Norwegian model train

passing farms, fishing villages, churches and ski jumps will wind through the mountains and fjords of Norway daily from 10 am to 7 pm through Jan. 6.

Near the White House – a few blocks down from the McPherson Square Metro on the blue and orange lines – is the “Nation’s Christmas Tree”, a 40-foot Colorado blue spruce from York, Penna., lit every night until 11 pm through Jan. 1. Fifty smaller “Pagent of Peace” trees are on a walkway on the Ellipse nearby, representing each state. Musical performances are held nightly on the Ellipse Stage until Dec. 23

## Mike Locksley Coaching in Rose Bowl

Former SW Police Boys and Girls Club #4 athlete of the 1980s Michael Locksley is offensive coordinator (QB) for the University of Illinois football team that will be in the Rose Bowl Jan. 1, 2008, representing the Big Ten against the University of Southern California.



Locksley graduated from Carroll High School on N. Capitol St. NE and Towson State University near Baltimore. He has held football coaching positions at the University of Maryland, College Park, and The University of Florida. In the Chicago Sun Times, Locksley has been mentioned for a head coaching job that might open up at Syracuse or other universities.

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# Who Will Clean Up The Trash After Ball Games?

The traffic and parking plans near the Nationals Ball Park have been the topics of intense discussion in the Near SW-SE area. Who is talking about cleaning up the trash after a game?

The web page for the Chicago Cubs' Wrigley Field includes a 14-page report of the club's responsibilities to the neighborhood. Two pages are about Clean Up. The Cubs organization empties 213 trash cans in an area of two square miles during the two or three hours after a game. "Hand cleaning and sweeping"



about six blocks each way around Wrigley Field, according to their map. "Power washed sidewalks immediately adjacent to Wrigley Field...at least once per home stand."

## SW Charity Seeks Board Members

**By Thelma Jones**

River Park Friends is currently seeking at least three board members, including one resident of River Park Mutual Homes, one a SW resident and a city-wide resident. If you are interested in helping RPF achieve its mission, contact RPF President Coralie Farlee at (202) 554-4407 or cfarlee@mindspring.com

River Park Friends (RPF) continues to make a difference in the lives of the people it serves. Since its inception in 1998, the organization has made grants totaling about \$50,000 – an average of about \$6,000 annually. In 2007, RPF awarded 4 grants totaling \$4,150. Awardees included the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly's (SWNA) Scholarship Fund, The Southwester, EmmaUS, and OurPlaceDC.

## The Southwester

Mail to: [thesouthwester@yahoo.com](mailto:thesouthwester@yahoo.com)

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### **Southwester Staff**

Dale MacIver, *Editor*

Lida Churchville, Thelma Jones, Ron McBee, Barbara Murray, Olga Woltman and Tanetta Isler, *Reporters*  
Herbert Holmes, *Production Assistant*  
Electronic Ink, *Service Bureau*  
Silver Communications, *Printer*

**Deadline for next edition, ads or text:**  
Wednesday, January 2, 2007.

### **Display Advertising Rates**

(New rates effective with May 2007 issue)  
The Southwester carries four columns, each 2½" wide. Each page has a printed area of 10 x 13¾".

#### **Black and White**

Sixteenth page (2½ x 3 7/16")	\$ .50
Eighth page (2½ x 6 7/8")	\$ .90
Quarter page (5 x 6 7/8")	\$170
Half page (10 x 6 7/8")	\$300
Full page (10 x 13¾")	\$550

*The Southwester* has no classified ads.

#### **Color**

In addition to the prices listed above, full process color ads pay an additional \$100 for a half page or smaller and \$200 additional for a full page.

**Ad Deadline: Wednesday, January 2, 2007**

## Classes at GWU for Grass-roots Leaders

D.C. Neighborhood College, in partnership with The George Washington University Center for Excellence in Public Leadership, is now accepting applications for its 2008 civic leadership development program.

Southwest/Near Southeast Neighborhood College Alumni include: Thelma Jones, Tracey Hooks, Naomi Mitchell, Rose Money, Vanessa Ruffin-Colbert, Idena Sanders, and Bob Siegel. Current SW residents of the program include Rhonda Hamilton and Kristie McComb.

The free 12-month program seeks to develop effective grassroots leaders and is open to all DC residents. Applications are due January 4, 2008, by 3:00 p.m. Applicants will be notified of their selection by Friday, February 8, 2008. Interested applicants should contact Karima Morris Woods at 202-994-5384 or visit [www.dcneighborhoodcollege.org](http://www.dcneighborhoodcollege.org) for an application.

## Southwest Community Calendar Nov. 21 - Dec. 31

**WED. DEC. 19** AARP Holiday Party, Pier 7, 7th & Water St. SW, 12 noon.

**SUN. DEC. 23** Arena Stage open house at Crystal City Marriott, Bell St., 2 pm

**MON. DEC. 24-JAN. 4** Winter Break for schools

**TUES. DEC. 25** Christmas Day holiday

**THURS. DEC. 27** Corcoran Gallery free to Near SW/SE residents, 17th and New York Ave. NW, 10 am-9 pm.

**MON. DEC. 31** New Years eve

**TUES. JAN. 1** New Years day holiday

**TUES. JAN. 8** Police Citizens Advisory council, 415 4th St. SW, 7 pm

**THURS. JAN. 10** Council Member Tommy Wells monthly "office" at Pier 7 cafeteria, 7th & Water St. SW, 8am-9:30 am

**FRI. JAN. 11** Ballpark parking public roundtable – Wilson Bldg., 1350 Penna Ave NW, Council Chambers, 5th floor 10 am.

**SUN. JAN. 13**, Ansel Adams show closes at Corcoran Gallery of Art, 17th & New York Ave., NW,

**MON. JAN. 14** Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6D meeting open to public, St. Augustine's Church, 6th and Maine Ave. SW, 7 pm

**THURS. JAN. 17** Police PSA 104 public meeting – place TBA – 7 pm

**MON. JAN. 21** Martin Luther King, Jr., birthday observed – a holiday

*Please submit calendar items for October events to voice mail – 202-554-8560 or by email to [thesouthwester@yahoo.com](mailto:thesouthwester@yahoo.com) or by US mail to PO Box 70131 by Wednesday, January 2.*

## SW/SE Day at Corcoran, Thurs. Dec. 27, 10 am-9 pm

The usual \$14 admission fee at the Corcoran Gallery of Art at New York Ave. NW and 17th St. NW will be waived for any resident of Near SW (zip code 20024) or Near SE (zip code 20003) and their families. This gift from the Corcoran is part of the package of community benefits they have agreed to in the future move of the Corcoran School of Art to the old Randall Jr. High Bldg. at 65 I (Eye) St. SW.



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## Your Art in SW Call Boxes

**A**rtists are invited to submit their ideas for designs to go inside one or more of the 32 historic fire emergency call boxes on the curbs of the Near Southwest DC area that have been renovated and painted blue and need to be completed in the next year or so.

Send an email to [swwcallboxproject@gmail.com](mailto:swwcallboxproject@gmail.com) for rules of the competition and an address list of the call boxes in SW waiting for art. Deadline for submitting a design by email is Fri. Jan. 11, 2008.

In Near Southwest the History Task Force of Southwest Neighborhood Assembly has spearheaded the local effort. Fire emergency call boxes have already been decorated in several neighborhoods, including Tenleytown and Dupont Circle. The citywide Art on Call program is being conducted by Cultural Tourism DC, the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities and the DC Dept. of Transportation.

Artists should check the list of locations and suggested themes for art on individual call boxes. Low resolution designs should be sent to [swwcallboxproject@gmail.com](mailto:swwcallboxproject@gmail.com)



by the Jan. 11, 2008 deadline. Submit one-page statement describing your proposal, theme and interest in the project and in Southwest DC. Also submit ideas on how the art will be installed and maintained over time. Art will be transferred to a permanent medium for installing in a box, if necessary.

## Photo Shows at the Corcoran to Close in January

**S**hows by photographers Annie Leibovitz and Ansel Adams will be open for only a few weeks in Jan. The Leibovitz show closes Sun., Jan. 13 and the Adams show closes, Sun. Jan. 27 (See Corcoran ad, p. 7)



## SW Students in Job Training

**S**W students in job training programs sponsored by the D.C. Dept. of Employment Services recently posed with Council Member Jim Graham at a job fair. Shown are (left to right) student Monique Bolden and her son, Council Member Graham, instructor Nikkie Hightower, student Roosevelt Suber III, and instructor Alexander Taiwo. Ms Bolden was graduating on Dec. 10 from a construction trade program for

women. Mr. Suber is employed at Reagan National Airport and will enroll at UDC in the spring.

Another SW student, not shown, is Robert Mackie.

Their training was supplied by a contractor with DCDES, Progressive Educational Experiences in Cooperative Cultures (PEECC), with an office in SW and a website [www.Peecc.org](http://www.Peecc.org).

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## To our South West Family and Friends:

The words thank you seem inadequate for all that you did to make our 10th Anniversary Gala a success!

We could not have accomplished so much in these ten years without each of you. Your patience, support and understanding have helped to make this program a support to the community.

Please pray that we will continue to be all that we should be at the South Washington West of the River Family Strengthening Collaborative.

Sincerely,  
*Samuel Tramel, Executive Director*



### WASA Asks for Help

*At left, Mohsin Siddique of the DC Water and Sewer Authority spoke at a slide presentation at the SW Branch Library, mostly on the 20 billion dollar Combined Sewer Overflow Control Project. More information is on the website [www.dcwasa.com](http://www.dcwasa.com).*

## Ann's Beauty Supply Shop

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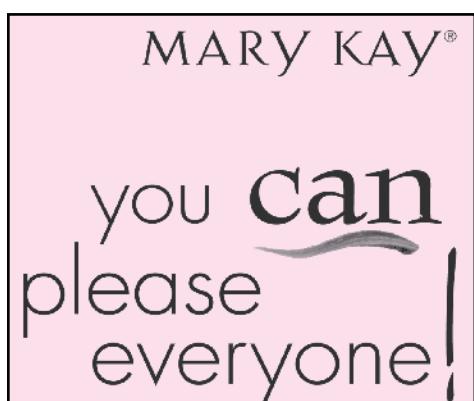
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*Julius Hayes, a long time SW resident, is proud that at age 60 he is still an active cyclist.*



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### Northwest

#### Georgetown Park Mall Service Center

3222 M Street, NW - Lower Level  
Washington, DC 20007  
**Tuesday - Saturday**  
**8:15 am - 4:00 pm**

**Please Note:** **Monday, December 31, 2007** - Georgetown Park Service Center will be **CLOSED**.

**\*\* Southwest Service Center (95 M Street, SW) is always **CLOSED** on Mondays.**

**For Hours of Operation and Locations of our other service centers, Road Test Lot, CDL Office, Adjudication Services and Inspection Station, please visit [www.dmv.dc.gov](http://www.dmv.dc.gov) or call 202-727- 5000.**

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Game Day traffic and parking were discussed at a meeting including: (left to right) Ken Laden, DC Dept. of Transportation; Gregory O'Dell, CEO of the DC Sports and Recreations Commission; 6<sup>th</sup> Ward Council Member Tommy Wells; First Dist. Police Commander David Kemperin, and Gregory McCarthy of the Nationals Baseball organization.

## Smart Card

*From p. 1*

metered even for ward residents and limited to two hours to discourage ballpark fans. Other areas would be metered for longer periods but charge as much as private parking garages, perhaps as much as \$35. ...It is unlikely that most of the new meters would be in place for the Nationals' first game on March 29."

Jacqueline Dupree on her blog [www.jdland.com](http://jdland.com) says this – in response to a comment on her Dec. 14 story on ballpark parking, "According to the map I saw, the blocks north of M, south of the freeway

and west of 2<sup>nd</sup> St. SE and across to 1<sup>st</sup> St. SW would in these preliminary plans be labeled as "retail" streets, with long-term parking that would cost an amount similar to garage-lot parking. Virginia Ave. would be "retail" as well. The other streets (from Canal Park east to 7<sup>th</sup> St. [SE]) would be considered "retail-adjacent residential" streets and would have meters that would allow 2 hour parking by non-residents on one side of the street, while residents could park on both sides with no time restrictions. This would be every day, not just game day. Meters would run from about 9 am to 10 pm seven days a week."

## Experts Say 11<sup>th</sup> St. Bridge Expansion is Wrong Way

Transportation experts, Smart Mobility, Inc., testifying before Council Member Jim Graham have concluded that the DDOT plan to add four lanes to the 11<sup>th</sup> St. Bridge is faulty.

Especially damaging for similar plans for the South Capitol St. Bridge and the 14<sup>th</sup> St. Bridge Corridor study are the statements that the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments transportation model relied on is inaccurate and "overestimates traffic volumes and underestimates transit use".

Below is a summary of the findings they gave to the Council Member.

### Summary

We have conducted a review of the 11th Street Bridges Final Environmental Impact Statement. In summary, we have the following concerns about this project, and have concluded that it falls short of National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements in several key respects. These are briefly summarized below:

1) The Purpose and Need Statement does not suggest that additional capacity is needed, and the FEIS states numerous times that the project will not increase freeway capacity. However, all of the build alternatives not only include four

additional lanes crossing the river, but also increase freeway capacity by 50% at the system's primary bottleneck, the connection between the 11th Street Bridges and the Southeast Freeway. Adding freeway capacity is inconsistent with planning goals of the District of Columbia and the National Capital Planning Commission. Alternatives should be developed, evaluated, and refined that do not increase the freeway capacity in the project area.

2) The increased roadway capacity proposed results in much larger traffic volumes in the study area, including 44,000 additional Anacostia River crossings per day. The increases on the 11th Street Bridges (49,000 vehicles per day) are 9 times the reduction shown for the Pennsylvania Avenue Sousa Bridge. If the 11th Street Bridges were done without the Southeast Freeway boulevard conversion assumed in all 2030 traffic analyses in the FEIS, traffic volumes in the study area would be higher, especially on the Pennsylvania Avenue Sousa Bridge.

3) The impacts of the project are not fully disclosed or considered in the analysis. Peak hour freeway traffic will increase by up to 85% on the Anacostia Freeway (also called Kenilworth Avenue or DC 295), and by over 12% on the Southeast Freeway heading into central DC during the afternoon peak hour. Freeway analysis was done only for the afternoon peak hour but should also be done for the morning peak hour which could be the worst case. The limits of the analysis should be extended to the downtown and along the Anacostia Freeway.

4) The increased traffic that will result from the project will result in increased air pollutant concentrations relative to the no build alternative. However, the FEIS only compares the air pollutant concentrations to the standards, and not to the no build conditions. Further, the effects of increased air pollution are not adequately considered for disadvantaged populations near the project, especially those living near Kenilworth Avenue. A

*Continued on Page 7*

## ANNIE LEIBOVITZ A PHOTOGRAPHER'S LIFE, 1990-2005

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# D.C. Goes “Green” – Praised by EPA

The D.C. government has committed itself to encourage construction standards and storm water controls throughout the District that are similar to those adopted in June 2007 by the Anacostia Waterfront Corporation.

An agreement dated Nov. 27, 2007, and sent to the US Environmental Protection Agency regional office in Philadelphia is on the website of the DC Dept. of the Environment, [www.doe.dc.gov](http://www.doe.dc.gov). In announcing the agreement Mayor Adrian Fenty stated, “I am pleased with the new MS4 enhancement agreement and look forward to the long-range effects of improving the District water quality and quality of life.”

In a release dated Dec. 04, 2007, the regional office of EPA in Philadel-

phia called the agreement “a landmark agreement.” “This is the most advanced set of green infrastructure controls for urban storm water that we have seen in the Mid-Atlantic Region. The District’s commitment to employ sustainable and measurable solutions for wet water pollution demonstrates leadership for the Chesapeake Bay watershed.”

These standards will apply throughout the District “where feasible,” whereas the AWC had more control to enforce the standards because it was dealing with public land that would be leased or sold to private companies.

Several District government agencies will play a part in the “greening” effort. The district agrees to plant “at least 4,150 trees per year with a goal of planting and

maintaining at least 13,500 additional trees” in six years. The District will make \$500,000 available in incentives for green roofs in federal, residential, commercial and District-controlled properties, with a goal of \$1,000,000 per year. It will install “environmental catch basins” in new road projects and install another “end-of-[overflow]-pipe litter trap” in 2010.

A dog park program and public education program will reduce pet waste reaching the wastewater system. Cameras will be installed to record illegal dumping activities, beginning in 2009. The District will target potential illicit discharge sources such as Laundromats, dry cleaners and auto repair shops.



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## **Naomi Monk Wins Award**

By Lida Churchville

Southwest community leader Naomi Monk was awarded the 1st Annual Livable, Walk-able Community “neighbor” Award on Wednesday, Dec. 5th at a well-attended celebration hosted by Councilmember Tommy Wells and held at the East Hall of Eastern Market on Capitol Hill on a beautiful, snowy evening perfect for walking.

The award, given in recognition of

Naomi Monk’s livable, walk-able vision and leadership, was one of four awards presented by Councilman Wells to “neighbors, city employees, civil organizations, and local businesses”. Having won his Ward 6 Council seat on a “livable, walk-able community” platform, Tommy Wells was pleased to announce to his enthusiastic audience that a recent Brookings Institution report has named Washington, DC as the #1 Walk-able City in the country.



## **Public Service Commission Hearing**

DC Public Service Commission members conducted a community hearing in SW on Washington Gas Co.’s request for a \$20 million dollar increase in rates. Commissioners are: (left to right) Richard E. Morgan, Agnes Yates, chair, and Betty Ann Kane.

## **11th St. Bridge**

From p. 6

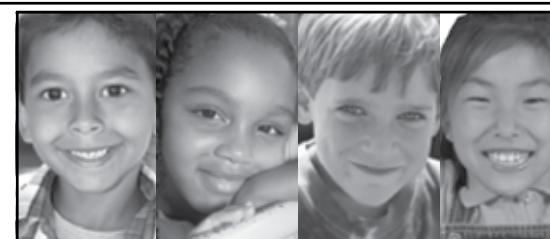
large number of studies have documented health problems for those living near to heavily traveled roadways.

5) The alternatives are far too similar, and provide an inadequate range of options. All of the alternatives will significantly increase traffic on the Southeast and Anacostia freeways, which will restrict future options from consideration for downsizing or avoiding increased capacity on these facilities.

6) The Metropolitan Washington

Council of Governments (MWCOG) transportation model relied on is inaccurate even for the base year. The hundreds of precise numbers presented in the FEIS for future traffic volumes, speeds and delays are misleading as they are highly uncertain. The model overestimates traffic volumes and underestimates transit use. The model deficiencies bias the results towards exaggerating any traffic benefits that may result from the preferred alternative.

The summary and the full report as a pdf appear on the website of The Capitol Hill Restoration Society, [www.chrs.org](http://www.chrs.org), the group that arranged for the study.



**RIVER PARK FRIENDS**  
Of Southwest Washington, D. C.

### **APPRECIATES**

#### **The Southwester**

We thank Dale MacIver, The Southwester’s versatile editor,  
who has guided the paper for many years,  
for his continued commitment to our neighborhood.

**River Park Friends is a 501(c)(3) organization making grants  
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